

**MT DISASTER & EMERGENCY PLAN
VOLUME II
STATE EMERGENCY COORDINATION CENTER
OPERATIONS PLAN**

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SECTION I

Purpose:

The purpose of the State Emergency Coordination Center (SECC) Operations Plan (OPS Plan) is to establish responsibilities and provide direction for the activation and staffing of the SECC.

The OPS Plan incorporates the following principles and concepts of the **National Incident Management System (NIMS)**: Components of Command and Management; Preparedness; Resource Management; Communications and Information Management; Supporting Technologies; and Ongoing Management and Maintenance.

Within Command and Management, the OPS Plan incorporates the Incident Command System (ICS), Multi-agency Coordination System (MACS) and Public Information Systems to manage responses to natural and/or technological disasters.

Scope

The state's response to an emergency or incident may require the implementation of certain functional capabilities, an agency other than DES to assume the lead for specific incident responses or certain recovery implementation plans to be executed. The SECC OPS Plan establishes the SECC's role and responsibility in supporting local or tribal governments, state agencies and the federal government response to emergencies or incidents.

Authorities:

MCA – Title 10, Chapter 3.

United States Code (USC) – Title 42, Section 5121 *et seq*: The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief And Emergency Assistance Act, As Amended.

Assumptions

- Montana will continue to experience natural, technological or man-caused incidents, emergencies or disasters requiring a state government response.
- All references in any plans are made with respect to incidents, emergencies or disasters.

- The state's response may be required to assist local or tribal government, state agencies, other states, or the federal government.
- Incidents, emergencies or disasters will require varying levels of response. The development of plans identifying the state's response will be based on the worst-case scenario. It is anticipated that the state's response will be conducted at the lowest possible SECC activation level to effectively and efficiently handle the situation.
- Army and Air National Guard assistance must be requested through Disaster and Emergency Services SECC.
- When an occurrence goes beyond the capability of local or tribal government, a request will be submitted for state assistance and will be handled through the SECC.
- The state's response during incidents, emergencies or disasters is based on the availability of state resources. If the response requirements go beyond state capabilities, federal assistance will be requested by the SECC.
- All efforts will be made to coordinate with state agencies, local, tribal, federal, private, volunteer, neighboring state or Canadian entities to effectively manage the consequences of any incident, emergency or disaster.
- When the "Montana Disaster and Emergency Plan" is activated, all or parts of the plan may be implemented.
- The DES Administrator will be the State Coordinating Officer (SCO) responsible for coordinating the state's response, unless otherwise designated by the Governor.

Activation

The SECC will be activated under any of the following conditions:

- State Response Level 4
- State Response Level 5
- The Division Administrator, Duty Officer or SECC Manager direction
- The Governor's proclamation of a "State of Emergency"
- Terrorist Activities or "WMD Activities" are occurring or imminent

The SECC activation status and the organizational development of the SECC will depend on:

- The nature, scope and expected duration of the incident
- The extent of the commitment of state agencies and local governments
- Functions needed to support Local government(s) and State activities

Maintenance

DES will coordinate the annual review of the SECC OPS Plan and update the document accordingly.